

COAL CARD BUREAU WILL OPEN TOMORROW

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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CONGRESS LEAD BY WILSON READY TO PUSH WAR WORK

Housewives Can Obtain Coal Cards

Bridgeport Homes Without Fuel Will be Promptly Cared for Tomorrow—Do Not Believe Schools Will Have to Close.

The card system for distributing hard coal will be instituted in this city tomorrow morning. The Bridgeport Fuel Committee has established permanent headquarters in Room 19, Stratfield building, and Murray Caldwell has been appointed permanent secretary for the committee. The committee and retail coal dealers completed plans at a meeting in the fuel headquarters this afternoon.

The fuel committee will handle cases in which the applicant proves dire need, but every ton of coal sold in the city from tomorrow on must be sold under the card system. Persons in need of coal must apply to their regular dealers. The dealer will take the applicant's name and address and after investigating the need—providing the dealer has coal to sell—he will immediately deliver a ton to the applicant's house. If the dealer does not have coal in stock, the applicant must then make his application directly to the secretary of the fuel committee. Providing the immediate need the secretary will issue the card to a dealer, whom he knows has coal, directing him to deliver a ton at the applicant's address. No telephone orders will be accepted.

Chairman Carl F. Slemmon of the committee wishes to make it clear that the committee will care for urgent cases only. The committee has permanent headquarters and will transact all future business at its new headquarters. There being no government.

REMONSTRANCES FILED BY MAYOR AGAINST CAFES

Formal remonstrance against the renewal of the license of William Pfau, proprietor of the Amazon hotel in Fairfield avenue was filed with the county commissioners today by Mayor C. B. Wilson. In addition to the formal remonstrance the mayor filed objections to the renewal of licenses to 46 other saloons in the city in which conditions have been complained of by the police, due to the allowing of women to loiter in the places, evasion of the Sunday closing law, disorderly conduct, and in some cases neglect of sanitary provisions. Some of those to whom objection has been made appeared today for their licenses with money and bonds but were told their licenses would not be issued today, and that they must come again.

Included in the places to which objection is made by the mayor are some of the more prominent cafes of the city. One such is the Hotel Lorraine in Chapel street. Another is Buller's cafe in Bank street. The Royal Hotel, Atlantic hotel, and some others of nearly equal prominence are included in the list.

All of the applications will be held up pending further investigation, and the commissioners will insist upon assurances that changes of character, strict compliance with the laws, and perhaps physical changes in the layout of the places of business will be made before the licenses are granted.

THE WEATHER.

For Bridgeport and vicinity: Cloudy and warmer tonight; Tuesday snow or rain and warmer.

BRITISH REGAIN GROUND NEAR BOURLON

British Army Headquarters in France, Dec. 3.—(By the Associated Press)—British troops last night reoccupied a section of a trench on the high ground southwest of Bourlon village, on the Cambrai front, which was lost on Friday. The town of Masnières, which was evacuated by the British, was shelled last night by British artillery.

The Germans attacked the British positions at Laquavere at 8:50 p. m. and an hour later it was reported that they had been successfully beaten off. Today's attack followed three futile attempts by the enemy to take this village yesterday afternoon.

Gen. Byng's troops last night pressed near to the village of Villiers Guislan and their line now is fairly near the town.

LATE WAR BULLETINS

Berlin, Dec. 3, via London.—Since Friday the Germans have captured 6,000 British prisoners in the Cambrai region; the German general staff announced today. The guns taken numbered 400.

Amsterdam, Dec. 3.—Bulgaria has decided to open negotiations with Russia, in accord with her allies, and has sent a reply to this effect to the Russian government, a Sofia dispatch says. This announcement was made in the Bulgarian parliament by Premier Radoslavoff.

Berlin, Dec. 3.—A Russian deputation, the official statement says, has arrived at the command of Prince Leopold of Bavaria, with the object of arranging a general armistice.

CONDITION OF GIRL CRITICAL; ESCORTS JAILED

David Layton, aged 23, and Edward Cowan, 20, both of 260 Horace street, were sentenced by Judge F. L. Bartlett in the police court today, to six months' imprisonment in the county jail for taking without permission the automobile belonging to Frank Jacoby, of 1083 Broad street, from which Miss Hazel Waterman, of 905 Noble avenue, was thrown and critically injured, late Saturday night.

Both young men are also to be taken before the authorities of the town of Westport, in which the accident occurred, and one, at least, may be charged with reckless driving. Miss Waterman is now in the Bridgeport hospital, suffering from internal injuries, fractures of the thigh and pelvis, and severe body bruises.

Her condition is critical, and she is under the care of Dr. George J. Scheule, who was first called to attend her after the disaster. Hopes are held out for her recovery.

It is claimed that the machine was going at a rate of about 50 miles per hour on the Westport road when, in swinging around a bend, it crashed into a telephone pole. The car was completely destroyed.

Layton told detectives that he had taken the car on two previous occasions without right. Mr. Jacoby, some time ago, lost another machine under somewhat similar circumstances.

HARBOR ESTIMATE CUT FIVE MILLION

Washington, Dec. 3.—The cost of improvement and maintenance of harbors and waterways utilized in the handling of the country's water borne commerce was estimated to Congress today at \$29,515,697 for the fiscal year 1919.

That is a reduction of more than \$5,000,000 from the amount appropriated for the current year. As usual, the largest sum estimated was for the Mississippi river, a total of \$12,112,000. For the Ohio river \$5,006,000 was proposed, and for the harbor of New York, where the largest portion of the country's foreign commerce is handled, \$3,010,000, which includes provision for improvements on the Hudson and East rivers, estimates for the latter waterway amounting to \$2,500,000.

DARING ESCAPE FROM JOLIET BY 13 PRISONERS

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 3.—Thirteen convicts escaped from the state penitentiary here early today by breaking through steel doors and beating two guards into unconsciousness.

The guards on the penitentiary wall fired many shots at the fleeing convicts, but because of darkness it is not believed that any was hit.

A posse of 60 started in pursuit of the prisoners, who took a southerly direction.

The 13 men were in solitary confinement for having caused disturbances last week in the cell houses. To escape they had to break out of their individual cells, then saw through two barred doors and finally through a heavy steel door which leads into the "solitary" from the prison corridor.

Albert Chanelli, a guard stationed just inside the steel door, was beaten into unconsciousness, but not before he had summoned John Carlson, night captain of the guard with his cries. Carlson, too, was beaten into unconsciousness. The 13 men then climbed the 15 foot wall at the east gate.

Guards with rifles in the two towers nearest the gate saw the men disappear over the wall and fired at them repeatedly, but the night was dark and as far as known early today no one was hit.

Arden Murphy said that the men could not have escaped without the assistance or connivance of somebody about the prison.

Three of the men were serving life sentences.

NO MORE TOTING OF GUNS ALLOWED

That gun-toting is an offense which will not be tolerated in this city, was a point made clear to Charles Montali, a Portuguese, of 568 Crescent avenue, and Louis Pinkus, of 237 Stillman street, by Judge F. L. Bartlett in the police court this morning, when he imposed fines of \$100 and costs upon each, and gave Pinkus an additional jail sentence of 60 days.

Montali said that he was about to go back to Europe, and carried the gun for protection. Pinkus gave no such reasonable excuse. The latter was caught in Washington park, where he was seen running around with the gun in his possession, by Policeman Rogers.

GROCER STEALS SUPPLIES FROM RIVAL DEALER

South Norwalk, Dec. 3.—Two robberies which occurred in South Norwalk, one on Saturday night and the other last night, if they came to the ears of the Germans might cause them to think that the food situation here was far more serious than it ever has been reported to be in Germany.

Robert Scalzi, a grocer of this city, was arrested for the theft of about \$200 worth of groceries from Mead's grocery in Rowayton, a suburb, and another family by the name of Mead, who also live in Rowayton, have reported the theft of turkey, cranberry sauce, butter and bacon, sugar and gravy, pepper and bread from their ice box. Besides the food five gallons of gasoline was stolen.

NEW FORD PLANT HERE FOR U. S. WAR INDUSTRIES

Indications that the huge Detroit plant of the Ford Motor Car company is to be turned over to the United States government for war industrial purposes, as has been frequently prophesied during the past few months, are found today in advices received by the concern's local agents to the effect that there will be a substantial reduction in the size of sales forces throughout the country after January first.

No definite information is given as to what the government will do with the factory, but it is generally understood that the only change in the plant will be the discontinuance of the manufacture of pleasure vehicles, so that production of ambulances, trucks, tractors and certain other types of war and commercial cars may be increased to meet the great demands. Whether or not actual munitions will be turned out is still in doubt.

The government, it is reported, will take charge of the plant on, or immediately after January first. News of the impending change was leaked about as early as last August, and resulted in the boosting of prices for second-hand Ford cars, since these are now said to be coming into demand.

FILE EXCEPTIONS TO DECISION OF LICENSE GRANTORS

Appeal from the decision of the County Commissioners rendered Nov. 23, granting a license to sell liquor to J. E. Morrison at Main street and Union Square, has been filed in the Superior Court by the Bridgeport Land & Title Co.

This company was one of the remonstrants against the granting of the license through its president, D. Fairchild Wheeler. The claim of the remonstrants is that the place is in a financial center and is therefore unsuitable for a saloon.

Pending the decision of the appeal in the court the County Commissioners will take no action upon the application of John Shea for a renewal of his license in Main street and next door to the proposed location selected by Morrison.

The original remonstrance of the Y. M. C. A. and other institutions applied to Shea's place also, but that portion of the remonstrance was withdrawn.

MONTANARO GETS LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1 FOR YEAR

After waiting at the county court house since 7 o'clock this morning to be first in line, Michael Montanaro of 76 Lexington avenue, was granted liquor license No. 1 today by the County Commissioners. There is usually a friendly rivalry to secure the first license of the new year, and there have been varying fortunes in other years.

Today, however, Montanaro had matters pretty much his own way. There was no great gathering waiting for the privilege, although a few others were on hand early with their money for the new license.

WAR CONGRESS OPENS LONG SESSION

Washington, Dec. 3.—Faced by the mighty problem of America's part in the world war for democracy, congress convened today for its second war session.

Appropriations of billions of dollars and measures to put the full force of the United States behind its allies were the principal business of the session.

Official notification to the president that congress is in session and waiting to hear his opening address. The president will speak tomorrow at 12:30 p. m., in the hall of the house, before a joint session.

President Wilson, it is understood, will urge Congress to confine its work strictly to measures for successful and speedy prosecution of the war. There is a general disposition among the leaders on both sides to depend on him to take the lead in proposing the war measures and to give him all the non-partisan support possible.

While the question of declaring war on Austria, Turkey and Bulgaria, Germany's allies, is agitated in Congress, there is a general disposition to follow the wishes of the executive branch of the government which is understood to oppose any change in policy at this time.

President Wilson's address was in the hands of the printer today. While it is practically complete it is held open for any changes until a short time before delivery.

The keynote of the legislative program will be sounded by President Wilson in his opening address. It will be the President's first appearance before Congress since the night meeting of April 2, at the opening of the special session called to permit him to ask for a declaration of war against Germany.

Arrangement will be made tomorrow for a joint session, probably Wednesday, to hear President Wilson deliver his address, expected to largely define the legislative program.

Organization of both Senate and House under Democratic control having been effected at the special session, both bodies were ready to plunge into the mass of waiting business. Legislation, however, is not expected to get into full swing until next month, after the Christmas recess, although there is some agitation to forego the holiday.

Tomorrow will come the initial flood of bills, resolutions and petitions. Among the latter are many petitions accumulated during the recess, demanding the expulsion of Senator La Follette of Wisconsin for alleged disloyalty. His speech last September at St. Paul, Minn., was considered today by the Senate privileges and elections committee in connection with a sub-committee's investigation.

Appropriation measures will require much time. Fourteen general and probably several special supply bills for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1918, as well as estimates of additional money for present war needs, are to be considered, probably immediately after New Year's. Two bills, the legislative, executive and judicial and District of Columbia measures, already under preparation.

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BIG SALE FEATURES FIRST LOCAL PUBLIC OFFERING OF WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

Sale of war savings certificates and thrift stamps started with a rush at the post office in this city today, and at noon several thousands dollars had been turned over to the cashier for use of the United States in meeting war expenses. It is expected before the postal savings window is closed to night this amount will be materially increased as Friday and Saturday there were inquiries which would account for at least \$3,000 of the new loan.

C. F. Noren, an employee of the post office was the first purchaser of a war savings certificate, paying \$4.12 for a certificate which will return \$5.00 January 1, 1923. John L. Henley, also an employee of the post office, purchased the first thrift stamp, 25 cents, which can be exchanged for war savings certificates when 16 have been placed upon a card furnished by the post office officials. Among the early purchasers was Mayor C. B. Wilson.

During the day there was a constant business at this window, some individuals buying as high as \$100 worth of the certificates, which is the limit of purchase in any one day. No individual is allowed to hold more than \$1,000 in certificates at any one time. Both stamps and certificates pay interest at 4 per cent in advance and may be exchanged for bonds issued by the government in multiples of \$100 or may be cashed at the post offices by giving notice at stated rates.

It is expected that both certificates and thrift stamps will be on sale in other places than the post office by arrangement with the postmaster to make it convenient for those who wish to purchase them.

The certificates may be registered at the office of purchase, but when so registered are not transferable, and will be cashed only at the office of purchase and for the purchaser.

Under instructions of the postmaster general letter carriers may be furnished with stamps and the postal employees generally are instructed to assist the sale of stamps and certificates in every manner possible.

U.S. Troops Battle With Mexicans

American Cavalryman, Mexican Civilian and 35 Bandits Killed—Latter in Band of 200 Which Raids Tigner Ranch.

Presidio, Tex., Dec. 3.—One American cavalryman and one Mexican civilian and 35 Mexican bandits were killed in a fight on the Mexican side of the river on Saturday.

The dead:—Private Riggs, Eighth cavalry, sanitary detachment.

Justo Gonzales, foreman of the Tigner cattle ranch.

Private Noriel, troop K, was slightly wounded.

The bandits, 200 in number, raided the Tigner cattle ranch in Texas, on Friday, driving off some of the cattle and shooting others in the pasture. Tigner telephoned to Col. Langhorne, who ordered 30 men in pursuit. Tigner, owner of the cattle, accompanied the troops.

Lieut. Matlack followed a hot trail into Mexico and at Buena Vista the bandits attempted to ambush him. The lieutenant rode through the ambush into the midst of the bandits, his men killing 25 and wounding many more. The Mexicans retreated in disorder into the town.

COMBINATION OF BAKERS TO MAKE CHEAPER BREAD

Deeds recording the sale of the Bridgeport Bread Co. to the Massachusetts Baking Co. were recorded in the town clerk's office today. The local plant will be retained as the Bridgeport branch of the firm and will continue under the charge of L. L. Gilbert and W. J. Travis. Speaking of the transfer today Travis said, "Six or seven of us bakers combined so that we can buy flour in larger quantity and make bread cheaper."

The combined owners of the Massachusetts Baking Co. are: The Bridgeport Bread Co., Raymond Brothers of Waterbury, G. Emanuelson of New Haven, Mrs. Chaney's Bakery of Hartford, Deitz Baking Co. of Holyoke and Pittsburg Bread Co. of Pittsburg, Mass.

The Bridgeport plant, located at the corner of Housatonic avenue and Wells street, has been transferred to the new firm.

LOCAL BOY DOES WELL WITH U. S. ENGINEER CORPS

Among the American engineers who were reported in despatches from France, today, to have behaved so well during an engagement in which they were under heavy German shell-fire in the region of Gouzeaucourt, is believed to have been Oliver Wilkins, of 809 Cleveland avenue, this city, according to theories advanced by his friends.

Reports have had it that men from New York and Pittsburg took part in this action, and as Wilkins enlisted in Pittsburg, and was among the troops first to cross the Atlantic with Pershing, there is reason to believe that he may have been under fire.

The young man was a student of architecture in the Carnegie Institute of Technology, in Pittsburg, when he enlisted.